THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANSRAJ BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Speedy disposal of pending cases

†2717. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of pending cases have been disposed of by the Fast Track Courts established during the recent years;

(b) if so, the number of cases disposed of by these Courts till December, 2004;

(c) whether Government have made any future plan for the speedy disposal of pending cases;

(d) if so, the details of the plan; and

(f) the target fixed as to the number of cases to be disposed of annually under this plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per information received in the Department of Justice, as on 31st December, 2004, about 6.07 lakh cases have been disposed of by the Fast Track Courts.

(c) and (d) Department of Justice had requested the 12th Finance Commission to recommend the continuation of existing Fast Track Courts, and creation of another 1500 new Fast Track Courts at the Magisterial Level. However, the 12th Finance Commission has not made any recommendations in this regard. Realising that Information Technology will play a vital role in effective functioning of courts, Department of Justice has taken up computerisation of Judiciary in the country on a large scale. The pilot project for computerization of city courts in four metropolitan city of Chennai, Delhi Mumbai and Kolkata was taken up at a cost of Rs. 17.80 crores. As an extension of this project, funds to the tune of Rs. 24.24 crores have already been released

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the National Informatics Centre (NIC) for the computerization of city courts in the State capitals or in the cities where the principal bench of the High Court is situated.

In order to bring the entire judiciary under one network, Department of Justice has initiated a project for the computerization of District and Subordinate Courts in the States and Union Territories at a cost of Rs. 384.53 crores. NIC is the implementing agency of the entire project which will be implemented in a phased manner. Under this scheme, an amount of Rs. 103.05 crores has already been released to NIC.

(e) No such target for disposal of cases has been fixed.

Status of Fast Track Courts

2718. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Fast Track Courts were created in 2001, as a fully centrally sponsored scheme to dispose the cases pending for more than two years and in allocation of more than 500 crores was made by the 11th Finance Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cases disposed of by these Fast Track Courts so far;

(d) whether Government have taken a decision not to continue with these Fast Track Courts;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) how Government propose to clear the huge backlog of pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) and (b) At the initiative of the Department of Justice, the Eleventh Finance Commission recommended the establishment of 1734 Fast Track Courts to dispose of long pending sessions and other cases, pending for more than two years with an